



NEWSLETTER
FRIDAY 12TH APRIL 2024
ISSUE NO.26
EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING



EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING-ACHIEVING GREATNESS THAT LASTS A LIFETIME

Message from Mr Taylor

Welcome back to the Summer term, I hope you all had a restful and relaxing break whilst enjoying time with family and friends over the Easter Break. The topic of conversation on the playgrounds and at the school gates this week with children and parents alike has been the opening of our brand new purpose built EYFS Hub and outdoor learning environment. Children were 'Buzzing' with excitement at the sight of our brand new outdoor learning environment and EYFS Hub, yet another example of our commitment to **Excellence in Everything** for our children. With our Nursery and Reception children moving into our new EYFS Hub, 'phase 2' plans are now underway to create a purpose built library space and media suite, which will provide all children with another fantastic learning environment to deliver **Excellence in Everything**.

Teachers and children have hit the ground running this week, diving straight into our exciting and engaging curriculum offer. On Wednesday, Key Stage 1 were visited by 'Animals in hands' and Year 5 and 6 visited Ironbridge Gorge museum followed with a day of Virtual reality workshops on Friday for Lower Key Stage 2. We certainly don't do things by halves at Warren Farm!

On Tuesday 16th April next week, those parents who will have children starting Reception in September 2024 will receive their offers from the local authority. Please click the following [link](#) for further information and guidance. If you have friends and families that are committed to **Excellence in Everything** for their children and would like them to join the Warren Farm team, please ask them to contact the school office for further details. With waiting lists growing across the school, now is the time for them to register their child's name to start their journey of **Excellence!**

Finally, we would like to wish Eid Mubarak to our children, families and members of the community that celebrated this week. It was lovely to talk with parents and children as you shared your celebrations over the week.

Make it a great weekend

Mr Taylor

**FROM TINY SEEDS
GROW MIGHTY OAKS**

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Tue 16th April	4DN Black Country Museum visit
Tue 16th April	Reception Offers day
Wed 17th April	3/4SK Black Country Museum visit
Wed 17th April	SEND Panathlon Games competition
Fri 19th April	3AB Black Country Museum visit
Thur 2nd May	School Closed for Voting
Fri 3rd May	School Closed Teacher Training Day
Mon 13th May	SATs Week Year 6



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BOYS FOOTBALL

On Thursday this week, our boys football team played their third match of the season away at Wyld Green Primary School. It was another excellent performance from our boys tonight. Warren Farm raced into an early lead before Wyld Green fought back to win 5-2. All of the team displayed fantastic attitudes and demonstrated *Excellence in Everything*. Well done boys - we go again!



HEALTH AND SAFETY- OUTDOOR LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Please refrain from allowing children and siblings to play on the new outdoor learning environment at the beginning and end of the school day. As a school, we must ensure that all children are supervised appropriately in the learning environment at all times. Thank you for your support and understanding.



WELCOME TO OUR BRAND NEW EYFS HUB AND OUTDOOR LEARNING ENVIRONMENT



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EARLY YEARS



Early Years have settled so well into our new playground and Early Years hub! We have spent a wonderful week exploring the new resources and becoming familiar with new routines - everyone has been incredibly resilient and respectful! This week we have focused on new classroom rules as well as reflecting on what we did in the Easter break. For the upcoming term, RMH and RLM will be exploring 'People who help us' and 'What will I be when I grow up?'. We will also be reading 'Dear Greenpeace' by Simon James - please take opportunities to discuss all types of jobs and how we help the community. Thank you for everyone's patience and support at the beginning and end of the day.

KEY STAGE 1



This week the children had a special visit from 'Animals in hands'. The children looked at animal classification and were all extremely excited and showed courage by holding the exotic animals. Children in 1CO started their swimming lessons this week and have shown excellence in everything. Please remember to send your child to school with the appropriate attire every Friday for swimming. As the phonic screening check approaches please continue to read regularly and sign your child's diary.



ATTENDANCE

You will have seen the, 'In School... On time... Every Day' challenge on Class Dojo this week. We have taken feedback from parents and ensured that the reward for this is as accessible for as many children as possible by making it 19 out of 20 days. We are really keen to kick start good attendance after a very shaky Spring Term. This challenge will be the platform for a really positive Summer Term.

We have seen an increasing number of leave in term time (holiday) requests recently. Please be aware that leave is only granted in very exceptional circumstances. If the leave is denied, you may receive a fixed term penalty notice from the Local Authority (currently £60 per child per parent). This is an unavoidable process for us as a school, and school do not see any funds from fines issued by the Local Authority. We are aware that over 20 fixed term penalty notices have been issued so far this academic year.

NAH	90.7%
RMH	91.7%
RLM	89.4%
1CO	86.3%
1/2YG	74.5%
2HM	86.2%
3AB	88.8%
3/4SK	91.3%
4DN	92.5%
5AS	88.3%
5/6NW	95.4%
6BP	96.1%

HEALTH FOR LIFE

Chicken Biryani

In celebration of Eid al-Fitr this week - the recipe we have chosen is Chicken Biryani - there are many variations to this dish and families cook it in different ways. Below is a simple dish that can be adapted to your own dietary needs.

Ingredients:

- 5 tsps natural yoghurt
- 5 Boneless chicken breasts
- 4 medium onions
- 700ml chicken stock
- 1 tsp garam masala
- Range of spices

Method

- 1) Marinate the chicken with the yoghurt and the range of spices.
- 2) Cut the onion lengthways and fry with a small amount of oil.
- 3) Add the marinated chicken with onion -adding a spoonful of yoghurt, pour the chicken stock in and simmer.
- 4) Cook the rice while the chicken simmers.
- 5) Layer the rice, chicken and the onions and serve with a sprinkling of coriander.





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SAFEGUARDING

This weeks safeguarding focus is underage vaping. Vaping is using an electronic or e-cigarette (a 'vape'). E-cigarettes are filled with a liquid known as e-liquid, e-juice or vape juice. The liquid comes in a variety of 'flavours' that can appeal to children. Vaping is relatively cheap, especially compared to smoking. Some of the concerns around vaping include a nicotine addiction, vapes laced with drugs, risk of exploitation and health effects on the body. Some of the signs of underage vaping include: coughing and signs of asthma, difficulty concentrating, mood swings or anxiety, lingering sweet smells on clothes or school items and leaving the room often. For more information or support and guidance, contact the NHS site for [underage vaping](#).

What is Dyspraxia?

SEND

Dyspraxia, which can also be known as developmental co-ordination disorder (DCD), is a common disorder that affects movement and co-ordination. Dyspraxia does not affect your intelligence. It can affect your co-ordination skills - such as tasks requiring balance, playing sport or even learning to drive a car in the future. Dyspraxia can also affect your fine motor skills, such as writing or using small objects. Though it cannot be cured there are things that can be done to help with daily living, supported by an Occupational Therapist. If you are concerned about your child's co-ordination and feel it might be Dyspraxia please contact your GP to discuss your concerns.

CHILD OF THE WEEK

NAH	Georgia-Rose Carter
RMH	Lucas Millership
RLM	Micah Penhemayi
1CO	Laney Chandler
1/2YG	Isla-Rose Clive
2HM	Aaliya Williams
3AB	Irene Pemhenayi
3/4SK	Evie Bradford
4DN	Albert Nyamutora Tigere
5AS	Olivia Fisher
5/6NW	Jacobi Coleman
6BP	Ya Xin Wang



LOWER KEY STAGE 2

We have had a very busy week back after the Easter holidays! We have started our new topic in History focusing on the Local History surrounding our area, ready for our trips to the Black Country Museum next week. On Friday we all had the opportunity to participate in the VR workshop. We consolidated our knowledge from last half term's Geography topic of South America.



UPPER KEY STAGE 2

Year 5 and 6 enjoyed a visit to Blists Hill on Wednesday. Despite the wet weather, we had a fantastic time exploring the Victorian village and learning all about what life was like in the year 1900. Children had the opportunity to visit houses, shops and factories and speak to many different characters. We took part in a candle dipping workshop, using different coloured waxes to create a rainbow-like pattern, but the highlight of the day was dressing up and attending the Victorian schoolhouse; the children had a shock when they were taught by the very strict Miss McCallum.





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COURAGE

HONESTY

INTEGRITY

RESPECT

**SELF
DISCIPLINE**

**THE “IN SCHOOL...ON TIME...
EVERY DAY!” CHALLENGE**

WHAT?

**THOSE CHILDREN WHO
ARE IN SCHOOL, ON TIME,
EVERY DAY FOR 19 OUT
OF 20 DAYS BETWEEN
MONDAY 8TH APRIL AND
FRIDAY 3RD MAY WILL
GET AN ‘INFLATABLE
PLAY’ SESSION IN
SCHOOL.**

WHEN?

**THE INFLATABLES WILL
BE IN SCHOOL THE
WEEK COMMENCING
6TH MAY.**





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At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators MANAGING EXAM STRESS

At some point in their education, children are almost certain to encounter exam stress, which can cast a shadow over their mental, emotional and physical wellbeing. Mental health charity YoungMinds estimate that a staggering 87% of pupils suffer from exam stress – highlighting the urgent need to minimise its impact on children's health and happiness.

1 PRACTISE WORKLOAD WISDOM

The build up to exam season is such a busy and pressurised time in a child's education that it can be difficult for youngsters to avoid feeling overwhelmed. Encourage them to consider whether their current workload is realistic and allows them sufficient time to relax and recharge. Work with them in crafting a revision timetable that's manageable and includes breaks and occasional days off.

2 ADVISE CLEARING THE CLUTTER

A disorganised work environment is proven to negatively affect our ability to focus, as well as our emotional state. Encourage children to keep their desk, notes and revision materials tidy – creating a dedicated, well-kept study space to promote maximum focus. Foster their creativity by suggesting they incorporate vibrant colours, mind maps and even quirky drawings into their revision notes.

3 MASTER THE MATERIALS TOGETHER

Revision seems far harder when a child is uncertain where to begin or what sources to consult. Support them in confirming revision materials with their various teachers – emphasising the importance of gathering a range of resources to get a more comprehensive understanding of the subject. Feeling more prepared should nurture the child's confidence and help to dispel some of their anxiety.

4 RECOMMEND CREATIVE NOTE-TAKING

Writing out notes in full – rather than simply bullet pointing – can be a strong start to a child's revision. Reinforce this idea, encouraging the use of flashcards (featuring shorter versions of previously taken notes) for effective repetition and memorisation. Discuss the power of regularly reviewing notes to help them stay in the child's memory.

5 USE VISUAL AIDS AND MNEMONICS

Encourage the use of visual aids like videos and sticky notes to enhance learning. Some children find these resources far more useful than simply reading their notes as written. Explore creating mnemonics for a fun and effective study approach – and it's also worth noting that the strategic use of colours is a proven means of triggering recall during exams.

6 GATHER A 'TECH TOOLKIT'

Technology can be a huge advantage in exam prep. Educational YouTube channels and revision websites like BBC Bitesize can be immensely powerful resources for helping children to expand and retain their knowledge. You could also recommend the use of flashcard apps and educational podcasts for revision and reminders when young people are on the go.

7 KEEP IT FUN

Revision tends to go far more smoothly if children are having fun in the process. Injecting some humour into their notes, for instance, can make details more memorable – as can relating information to their real-life experiences. Try to encourage a variety of study methods, such as incorporating physical activity (even simply taking a walk) into their revision routine.

8 SUGGEST ACTIVE REVISION STRATEGIES

Make sure children are aware of different study techniques. You could emphasise the effectiveness of spaced repetition by reviewing material regularly over time to reinforce learning and improve retention. Discuss the benefits of active recall methods – such as self-testing or explaining a concept aloud – in identifying where their strengths and weaknesses lie.

9 ENCOURAGE A POSITIVE MINDSET

It can be easy for children's thoughts to fall into a downward spiral when they're stressed and about exams. Try to foster a growth mindset by emphasising the importance of giving it all rather than aiming for complete perfection. Positive self-talk and the use of affirmations can build confidence and reduce anxiety, while visualising success and setting realistic goals can help them stay motivated and focused.

10 HELP THEM TO SEIZE THE DAY

There are lots of things children can do on the day of their exam to reduce stress and increase their focus. Talk them through some helpful exam-day strategies – such as arriving early, reading the instructions and the questions carefully, and pacing themselves during the test. Suggest some relaxation techniques, such as deep breathing or visualisation, to help them manage any nerves before and during the exam.

Meet Our Expert

Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. Winner of the Social Enterprise UK 'One to Watch' award, the charity provides training and support to education organisations and local authorities. This guide has been written by Adam Gillett – a learning and development specialist who is also Associate Vice-Principal for Personal Development at Penistone Grammar School.



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Ofsted
Good
Provider